

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

LISTING OF CURRENT CLAIMS

Claims 1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A retractable handle assembly for a luggage case. The retractable handle assembly of claim 1, the handle assembly including a pair of elongate substantially parallel handle units and a handle grip interconnected the handle units, the handle grip having a push button, either handle unit comprising:

a support tube fixed at a bottom of the luggage case;

a sliding tube connected to one end of the handle grip, the sliding tube being slidably disposed in the support tube;

locking means disposed in a lower portion of the sliding tube;

a connecting rod interconnected the push button and the locking means; and

damping means floatably disposed between a lower portion of the sliding tube and a bottom of the support tube,

wherein the damping means comprises a hollow upright plunger, a spring, a piston rod, a sealing ring biased by the spring thereunder, and a top cap;

wherein the damping means is operative to damply extend upward a predetermined distance in a substantially stable speed by pressing the push button in a pulling operation of the handle assembly.

7. (Original) The retractable handle assembly of claim 6, wherein the piston rod comprises a lower neck disposed on the sealing ring, an upright, and a top pipe arm coupled to the locking means.

8. (Original) The retractable handle assembly of claim 7, wherein the upright has a section of cross, the cross having a first bar and a second bar shorter than the first bar.

9. (Original) The retractable handle assembly of claim 8, wherein the hollow plunger comprises a coupling extended downward from an enclosed lower end, an internal post extended upward from the enclosed lower end with the spring put thereon, two flats at both sides adjacent a top, and a projection on either flat; and

the top cap comprises a frame in a shape of "Π", a top hole, two opposite dents on an edge of the hole with the first bar fit therein such that the piston rod is operative to slide longitudinally along the dents, and a longitudinal side groove with the projection disposed therein for fastening the spring, the sealing ring, and the piston rod in the plunger.